

ABSTRACT

An image reading apparatus for optically reading a document image wherein an area outside the document contour is not read as black image by image sensor when a non-rectangular document or the like is duplicated in a sky shot. The image reading apparatus according to the present invention comprises closing and opening detection means for detecting the opening of the document cover, contour detecting means for detecting as probable edge point the pixel thought to be a document edge point, contour correction means for determining whether the probable edge point is a document edge or not, and image forming means for forming an image data of the document only on the basis of the document edge points.